

To the Members of the California State Senate:

I am returning Senate Bill 657 without my signature.

I vetoed a similar bill last year, SB 1380 (Escutia) because it was inconsistent with the State Board of Education's principles to ensure that classroom curriculum is rigorous, standards-aligned and research-based. The State of California has established nationally-acclaimed academic standards and required the adoption of instructional materials to reflect those standards. I continue to be concerned that allowing for the circumvention of the current adoption process will compromise the assurance that parents, students, and educators deserve, that the highest level of standards-aligned instructional materials are provided to schools.

For these reasons, I am unable to sign this bill.

Sincerely,

Arnold Schwarzenegger